



**City of El Paso
Museums and Cultural Affairs Department**



The Honorable Adair Margo, Chairman
President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities
and
Yolanda Alameda, Director
Museums and Cultural Affairs Department

Invite you to a breakfast discussion
with
Margie Johnson Reese, General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs

Wednesday, June 28, 2006
9:30-11:00 am
RSVP by June 26, 2006
915.532.1707

El Paso Museum of Art
One Arts Festival Plaza
El Paso, TX 79901

Continental breakfast to be served
Music by *Rosa Blanca*

Margie Johnson Reese



Margie Johnson Reese is the General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Appointed following a national search, Ms. Reese manages a complex department that has oversight for arts, cultural, and heritage programs. She supervises staff and programming for 22 city-owned visual and performing arts centers; the Los Angeles International Cultural Exchange Program; the city's Percent for Art and Public Art and Murals Programs; and cultural grant programs that include funding over 120 festivals produced each year in the city. The department also operates four professional theaters presenting quality film, theater and dance performances. Her leadership in the area of cultural and heritage preservation led to the development of an expanded murals conservation program, and greater public involvement in preserving historic sites.

Margie has served as an arts professional and administrator for the past 28 years contributing to public policy development on numerous state, regional, and national panels. She served as a lead consultant on professional teams advising local arts councils throughout the United States in areas of community development, arts education, and cultural planning. Known particularly for her diligent work and passion for developing inclusive programs, Margie often serves on grant making panels to determine funding allocations and prescribe technical assistance strategies for cultural organizations around the country.

As Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs for the City of Dallas, Margie is credited with bringing greater visibility to the arts and securing increased funding support for the city's programs from both the public and private sectors. Prior to that position, she held the Executive Director post for Cable Access of Dallas, the community service arm of TCI Cablevision of Dallas, where she managed the multi-channel cable system.

Margie is most noted for her ability to initiate partnerships among unlikely collaborators. She initiated significant partnerships with county and state government entities, corporations, non-profit agencies, and the Dallas Public School System to develop creative solutions to multi-dimensional community issues. Hoping to continue that work in her new position, she develops philanthropic partnerships in the Los Angeles community to support the creation of more arts and music programs for children in neighborhoods throughout the city.

A native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Margie attended public and parochial elementary and high schools. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Theater and Costume Design from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. An avid champion of children with disabilities, she completed courses in Arts for the Handicapped at Texas Woman's University. Although she began her collegiate career at Southern University, a historically black college, a theater scholarship led her to Washington State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Speech and Theater.